MIKHAEL BAKUNIN



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God and the State, the best-known work of Russian anarchist Mikhael Bakunin (1814 - 1876), was written between February and March 1871. It was originally written as Part II of a greater work that was going to be called The Knouto-Germanic Empire and the Social Revolution. Part I was to deal with the background of the Franco-Prussian War and a general history of European resistance to imperialism. God and the State, like most of Bakunin's work, is unfinished and disjointed. Bakunin said of this: "My life is a fragment." God and the State is indeed a fragment; the book has paragraphs that drop out and pick up in mid-sentence, footnotes that are four or five paragraphs long, and the book itself stops abruptly in mid-sentence.

Translated by Benjamin R Tucker.

Read by Carl Manchester.

Mikhael Bakunin - God and the State

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Total running time: 3 hours 14 mins

Photograph of Bakunin by Gaspard -Félix Tournachon, circa 1860.